



A STATE OF WAR EXISTS

The President Will Ask Congress
to Say So.

A NECESSARY FORMALITY

England Instructs Her Colonies
to Observe Neutrality.

WILL CALL MORE VOLUNTEERS

The Effective Fighting Force to Be
Made 200,000—Officials Are Amused
by Associated Press Comments—
Lieut.-Gen. Schofield to Be an Of-
ficial Adviser—A Council of War.

The President will send to Congress for a message recommending that a condition of war be declared to exist. It is understood that the advice of the President will be noted on at once and that before tonight the formal declaration will be made.

The message of the President has been written since Friday and was intended to go to Congress Saturday, but was postponed for some reason. The announcement is made officially that it will go in today, however.

It was stated last night at the White House that the only thing that would prevent the message from being sent in would be a declaration of war by Spain in the meantime.

Whether Spain's action of yesterday will be taken as a formal declaration of war is not known.

There was a conference at the White House yesterday over the message and its reception in the Senate. Senators Davis and Hale and Judge Day, and Attorney General Griggs were with the President for an hour or more. The message was read to the senators. It will be sent to the Foreign Relations Committee when it is received and will be acted on favorably by that committee immediately.

There has been some difference of opinion as to the necessity of this step, but the President has been in favor of it as having his Cabinet and other advisers on whom he relies. It is thought that even if the declaration is not absolutely necessary, it will aid in the settlement of international questions depending on the existence of war. Already questions as to prizes and as to the neutrality laws and the international code relating to contraband articles are coming to the State Department for solution, and a definite official statement that war exists will make the answers to these much simpler.

Contraband Articles.

The question of contraband articles is receiving considerable attention by the Government. There is nothing more certain than that the question of what is contraband of war has not a fixed answer. It depends on circumstances, and the only general definition is that everything is contraband that may be used as war supplies. It is probable that the United States will make some formal statement as to the articles that will be considered contraband during this conflict by this country. It is said to be quite possible that Spain's official list may be different from this country's. The decision as to what is to be an interesting one. Foreign nations will be obliged to make their own decision if this country makes such a contraband and Spain excluded it, as is thought probable. There is reason to believe that the decision will be in favor of the United States, however.

It was announced at the State Department yesterday that the governors general of Newfoundland and Jamaica have notified the American Government that by order of the British foreign of-

125,000
out of
70,000,000

still leaves quite a number of people who will need to wear civilians' clothes, and to them we wish to say that our stock of fine clothing is worthy of their notice. We specially wish to call their attention to a very fine line of

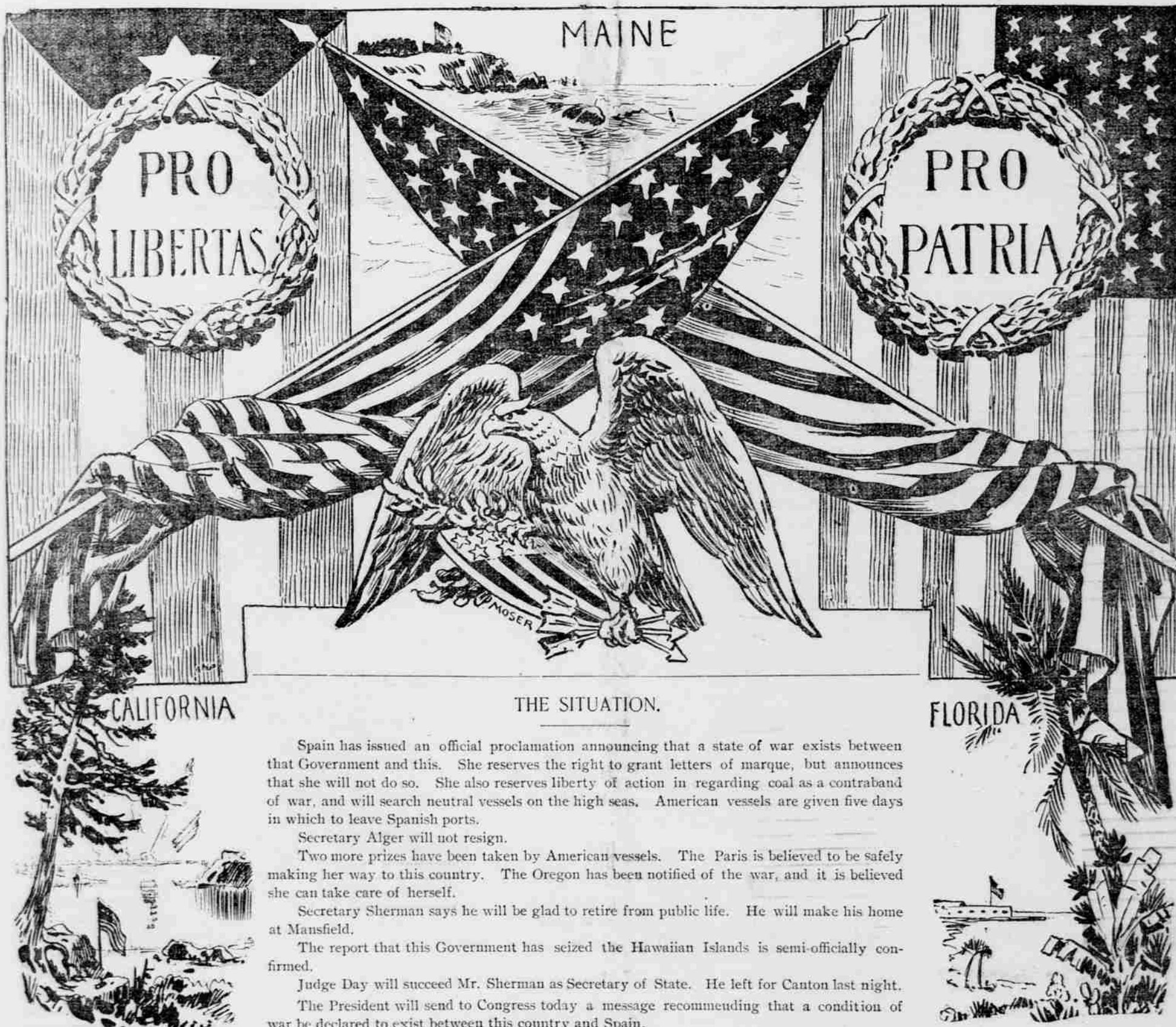
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THE SITUATION.

Spain has issued an official proclamation announcing that a state of war exists between that Government and this. She reserves the right to grant letters of marque, but announces that she will not do so. She also reserves liberty of action in regard to coal as a contraband of war, and will search neutral vessels on the high seas. American vessels are given five days in which to leave Spanish ports.

Secretary Alger will not resign.

Two more prizes have been taken by American vessels. The Paris is believed to be safely making her way to this country. The Oregon has been notified of the war, and it is believed she can take care of herself.

Secretary Sherman says he will be glad to retire from public life. He will make his home at Mansfield.

The report that this Government has seized the Hawaiian Islands is semi-officially confirmed.

Judge Day will succeed Mr. Sherman as Secretary of State. He left for Canton last night. The President will send to Congress today a message recommending that a condition of war be declared to exist between this country and Spain.

few they will observe strict neutrality during the conflict. This means for one thing that already war is recognized to exist in England.

It means also that there will be no further exportation of supplies for Cuba from Jamaica, which is only a short distance from Cuba.

More Volunteers to Be Called.

A further call of 125,000 volunteers is being considered by the President. It will probably be made in a few days, thus increasing the volunteer army to 200,000 men. No particulars can be learned at the War Department as to the contemplated new call, but it is stated on excellent authority that Gen. Miles is strongly in favor of a big increase, and that the President is acting on his suggestion.

It may be stated positively that Lieut.-Gen. Schofield, retired, will be connected officially with the War Department hereafter as special adviser to Secretary Alger in matters relating to the volunteer army.

Assistant Secretary of War Melick, Adj. Gen. Corbin and the other chief War Department officers worked all day yesterday on the latest details of the call which will be issued to the governors of States today. There has been an immense amount of work on the call and it is stated positively that it cannot go out until some time this afternoon.

The information given in the Associated Press telegrams yesterday to the effect that the army will be concentrated at Washington, Richmond and Atlanta is incorrect.

As stated in The Times yesterday, the troops will be centralized at some point to be determined later. After the troops have gotten thoroughly into shape with all their equipments and have seen a week or more of actual army duty they will be sent to points on the Gulf, not yet decided on, but probably to the three cities where the Regular Army is massed.

Officials Are Amused.

Some amusement was created by the Associated Press dispatches in the War Department. It is said that it would be utterly impossible to mass 125,000 men from all parts of the country, with as little experience as these will have, in the three cities named or in any three cities immediately. Some one is supposed to have thought that Washington would be a good place to receive 50,000 troops or more and to have worked the remainder of the story entirely from imagination.

It was stated at the department yesterday that every State and Territory in the Union has signified its willingness and desire to furnish immediately troops largely in excess of the appointment.

One or two of the Territories, with an appointment of two or three hundred, desire to furnish regiments.

The Navy Department has received official information as to the whereabouts of the battleship Oregon, but will not divulge it. It is understood, however, that she has rounded the Horn and is on her way northward up the coast of South America. It is understood that the Spanish ship *Tenorio* has left Buenos Ayres and that it is her intention to engage the

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Oregon as soon as they meet. The department will make no statement as to this, either, but the fact is pointed out unofficially that the Oregon is far the superior vessel.

Dispatches From the Fleet.

The department received several important dispatches from the fleet off Havana yesterday, but Secretary Long and other Navy Department officials, who were seen, would make no statement as to their contents. The Navigation Bureau received all messages yesterday and the important ones were sent immediately to Secretary Long. Lieut. Whittelsey, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, hurriedly left the Navy Department for Secretary Long's residence, and not finding him there, went next to the White House, Secretary Long and Capt. Crowninshield were in conference with the President and Lieut. Whittelsey was admitted. The conversation afterward was animated, and evidently of importance, and it is believed that some important developments in the situation off Havana had been made known.

The Paris.

The Navy Department has received no information of the Paris. It is the opinion of the Navy Department officials that she has escaped the war ships and gotten away from England safely and is on her way at top speed across the ocean. The department people say she could never have been captured by any ship outside of the waters immediately around the British Isles, and that if the capture had been made there it would now be known certainly.

A Council of War.

There was a council of war at the White House last night which lasted something over an hour. Those present were the President, Lieut.-Gen. Schofield, who acts in an advisory capacity to Secretary Alger, and Major-General Miles, commanding the land forces of the United States. It was decided to make the campaign about to be opened in Cuba aggressive from the start, and to lose no time in further waiting. The volunteers who respond to the first call of the President, made Saturday, will be drilled as rapidly as possible and equipped with all expedition, and they will be landed upon transports and hustled off to Cuba as soon as their transportation can be arranged for.

The firing on the fleet from Morro Castle yesterday morning and the previous night was discussed at length, and it was decided that Capt. Sampson acted right in not returning the fire. One of the conferees said that had he fired back the firing would have become general, and that some of the ships of the fleet undoubtedly would have been damaged, necessitating putting into Key West for repairs and placing the fleet at a disadvantage.

Other matters were discussed at length and as a result of the conference there will be renewed activity in all lines of work connected with hostilities.

Vice President Hobart called. Gen. Grosvener and Judge A. C. Thompson, of Ohio, a member of the commission appointed to revise the Federal criminal laws, followed Mr. Hobart. They would not say anything regarding their interview.

Clear white pine shingles, \$2.50 per 1,000; sell elsewhere for \$5 for 1,000.

FIGHTING BOB CURIOUS
Asks the Admiral How Close He
May Go to Morro Castle.

THREE VESSELS CAPTURED

The Torpedo Boat Porter Went Well Inshore and Intercepted a Two-Masted Monitor Terror Joins the Fleet—Chased an Italian Cruiser by Mistake.

With the Squadron Before Havana, April 23, via Key West, April 24.—After the assembly of the squadron this morning, and after the reports had been made to Admiral Sampson, the squadron was divided, and that part of it before Havana has started to their stations nearer shore, there seeming nothing more to be done. The orders of the Newport had been changed, however, and she is now blockading Cabañas, a port a few miles eastward of Bahia Honda. By this move the blockade line was extended to the westward.

It was now 10:30 a. m., the ships going to Matanzas and Cardenas were huddled down to the eastward, when at 11 a. m. a vessel was sighted in shore to the eastward and the Cincinnati chasing her. A few moments later the flagship started to chase also, and also was heading for Havana, the object being to cut off her entrance. After about fifteen minutes it was discovered that she was a man of war, and great excitement spread throughout the ship. Skirmishes were made and the Wilmington and Marblehead joined in the chase, while the Iowa and Indiana were to get more nearly between her and her destination.

The flagship was now making about sixteen knots and her crew was busily engaged in making all those little preparations for battle which go before manning the guns. Upon the call to quarters were sounded every man and officer went to his station with a determination to win, for it was now believed to be a Spanish man of war. But they were to wait yet awhile to try their metal for she proved to be the Italian cruiser *Giovanni Bausan*. At noon she saluted the flag of Admiral Sampson with thirteen guns, which was returned by the flagship. Thus ended the first chase of the day.

About noon the torpedo boat *Porter* went well inshore to investigate a schooner, which they brought alongside the flagship at about 1:30, she having proven to be the *Antonia*, a small two-masted schooner from Sierra Morna for Havana, with a cargo of sugar.

At 10:30, when assigning the stations of the fleet, the Iowa and Indiana were told to take a position to the north-northwest of Morro Castle, just out of range of their fire. Capt. Evans evidently desired to go nearer, for he asked the admiral several times, "How near may I go?" It seems to be the desire of all officers to have a

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K. None better, \$25 a year; day or night.

The Weather—Libbey & Co. Say—Fair tonight; cooler; northerly winds.

chance to compare our ordnance with that of Spain and when the permission is given, it will not be long before the big guns of our battleships and monitors boom.

Monitor *Terror* arrived alongside the flagship about 1:30 from Key West and will make a pleasing addition to the fleet, as seen from the water side of the affair. If there was any lack of enthusiasm before the evidence given when the call was sounded to quarters on the flagship this morning, it has been shown that it no longer exists and that our jack-tars are all anxious to avenge the Maine.

Naval Cadet Du Boise is to take command of the schooner *Antonia* with a prize crew of four men and take her to Key West tonight. He is a brilliant young officer.

CAPTURED OFF HAVANA.

The Gunboat *Helena* Intercepts a Spanish Steamship.

Key West, Fla., April 24.—The gunboat *Helena* intercepted the Spanish steamship *Miguel Jover*, of J. J. Serran's Sons' Perille Line, from New Orleans, April 21, for Barcelona, via Havana, one hundred miles out of Havana, early this morning and captured her. The *Jover* was loaded with staves and cotton. She carried no passengers, but had fifty-two in the crew.

Ensign McFarland, of the *Helena*, with nine marines and twelve sailors, boarded her as a prize crew and brought her to this port, where she arrived at 9 o'clock, conveyed by the *Helena*. Only one shot was fired at the *Jover* by the *Helena*.

The *Helena* being the only warship in sight at the time of the capture, the entire prize goes to her officers and men.

THE WINONA'S PRIZE.

Captures a Spanish Steamship at Ship Island.

Biloxi, Miss., April 24.—The revenue cutter *Winona*, which left this port last night, captured the Spanish steamship *Saturina* at Ship Island at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

It is likely the cutter will have to remain in quarantine with the prize until the health of those aboard the *Spaniard* is found to be satisfactory.

MR. GLADSTONE SINKING.

His Condition Very Grave and the End Is Near.

London, April 24.—Mr. Gladstone's condition has become very grave and it is no longer concealed that the end is not far off. Drs. Dobie, Hubert, and Bliss, called in consultations with Drs. Habersham and Sir Thomas Smith, at Hawarden, today. They issued the following bulletin:

"Mr. Gladstone's condition is one of increasing weakness, though he is more free of pain."

Prince of Wales Presides.

London, April 24.—The Prince of Wales presided yesterday at a meeting of the privy council in behalf of the Queen. The meeting was held at Marlborough House, and was called for the purpose of approving a draft of a proclamation of neutrality. The Duke of Devonshire, president of the council, and Viscount Cross, lord privy seal, were present.

Cyclists! Cellular Cloth Suits. Weighty as thistle-down! Auerbach's, Pa. ave.

All heart tumble, \$1.50 per 100 ft. Sells elsewhere for \$2.50 per 100.

OFF FOR THE WAR.

Spanish Troops Receive an Ovation in Madrid.

Madrid, April 24.—The members of the infantry battalion which started for the Balearic Islands yesterday were the recipients of a popular ovation. A great crowd, among whom were many ladies, lined the route from the barracks to the railway station.

The cable dispatches yesterday told of the enthusiasm over the soldiers' march, the market women and female cigar makers, who were indulging in a patriotic demonstration. Their evidences of patriotism were equalled if not excelled by the ladies who gathered to bid the troops goodbye.

As the march was sounded the crowd broke into deafening cheers, which followed the battalion as it passed along to the station. Ladies in the balconies of houses along the route showered flowers upon the troops, while others standing along the streets filled the soldiers' pockets with cigars and provisions and often handed them money.

Some of the more excitable ladies seized the officers and men and kissed them.

'NOR WILL THEY FORGET.'

Mr. McKinley Appreciates England's Expressions of Sympathy.

London, April 24.—The Washington correspondent of the Daily Mail cables that in an interview this afternoon President McKinley said:

"Not the Government alone, but the whole nation feel most deeply the good will sent to them across the sea," and he added impressively:

"Nor will they forget."

LONGING TO FIGHT US.

Presence of the Fleet Increases Patriotic Fervor.

London, April 24.—A dispatch from Havana to the Standard says that the appearance of the American squadron has heightened the patriotic fervor in that city.

The presence of the detested Americans has only increased the longing to fight them.

A Tour of Inspection.

Tampa, April 24.—Gen. Graham, commander of the Department of the Gulf, arrived this afternoon on the steamer *Mascotte* from Key West. He consulted with Gen. Wade for several hours.

Gen. Graham has been on a tour of inspection and is thoroughly satisfied with the result of his trip along the Atlantic coast to Key West. His stay here was very brief and he did not have time to examine the sites of the coast defense, which are to be begun at the entrance to Tampa Bay in a few days.

At 7:30 o'clock tonight the general left for Atlanta, but will return in a short time. There is a strong probability that the headquarters of the Department of the Gulf will be moved to Tampa.

Magazine Advertised Norfolk and New Brunswick Merino Underwear, \$1. Auerbach's, Pa. ave.

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Pickets and puttings, square and flat, clear dressed (1) sides, 2c. apiece.

AMERICA'S ALLIES

They Confer With Gen. Miles,
of the Army.

TO BE ARMED AND MOUNTED

Gomez May Then Invest Havana
by Land.

THE FLEET WILL CO-OPERATE

War to Be Prosecuted With a View
to Ending It Before the Rainy
Season Sets In—All the Patriots
Need Is Powder, Shot and Shell
and They Will Do the Rest.

New York, April 24.—The co-operation of the Cuban army with the United States Navy and Army in the war against Spain was definitely arranged in Washington yesterday. Although the junta maintain great secrecy about the plans, it is known that Gen. Miles has had several conferences with Senor Palma, Senor Quesada and Brías, Gen. Castillo and Nunez, during which the military plans of the Cubans were discussed at length and a final agreement reached.

El Porvenir, the Cuban newspaper in this city, said today:

"The co-operation of the Cuban army with the American has been finally arranged."

Brig. Gen. Castillo returned from Washington today. According to reliable information he will immediately begin operations among the Cubans in the United States for landing on the island a large expedition that will enable Gen. Gomez to put fifty thousand men in the field. Dry Castillo may be able to raise 5,000 Cuban volunteers in this country, but he has been conservative in his estimate and his idea for the present is to enlist only 1,000 men, a sufficient number to insure the delivery of the war material to Gen. Gomez. If more men are enlisted, as it appears certain in view of the great enthusiasm prevailing among Cubans all over the United States, so much the better. Dr. Castilio will then have the opportunity of picking his men.

Munitions and Supplies.

The expedition will not be an invading force to engage in battle with the Spaniards, but will merely convey to Gen. Gomez the munitions and supplies, the lack of which has sadly hampered him in his efforts to drive Spain from the island. The landing will be under the protection of the American Navy and for obvious reasons the point of landing must be kept absolutely a secret. The Cubans in charge of the project believe that if it is as successful as they hope it will be, Gen. Gomez will end the war before the rainy season is over and without the risk of a single United States soldier succumbing to yellow fever, malaria or the deadly dysentery which ravages the island at this time of year.

The centralization and arming of the Cubans, who are now scattered all over the island will be accomplished quicker than may be imagined, and will be a comparatively easy task. The famous march of the forces of Gomez and Maceo from east to west in 1895 was wonderfully rapid. It took Maceo only two months to march from the eastern to the western extremity of the island.

To Mobilize.

The bulk of the Cuban army, which is under Gen. Garcia in Santiago de Cuba province and under Gen. Menocal in Puerto Principe, may reach Santa Clara, where Gen. Gomez is at present, in two or three weeks.

If the Juarez-Morón trocha proves a serious obstacle Gen. Gomez himself can help them from the other side with the new and formidable equipment that at his disposal. Once in Santa Clara and provided with the rules and ammunition landed by the expedition, the whole army, led by Gomez, will march to the west.

On the way they will arm the Cuban bands they meet and the large number of volunteers who are expected to join them from every city and town. In two weeks Havana will be invested by 50,000 Cuban soldiers, while the American squadron maintains the blockade by sea. If by that time Gen. Blanco has not surrendered because of the starved condition of his army inside Havana, he will not be able to hold out long against such a formidable attack.

One thing to which the attention of Gen. Miles has been called is that the Cuban army must be well provided with horses. With plenty of horses the Cubans are splendid fighters. Their best soldiers are not cavalry, strictly speaking, but mounted infantry. They use the horses for quick marching, but fight on foot.

SPAIN'S MISTAKE.

Naval Officer's Views Regarding Her Cape Verde Fleet.

A prominent naval officer, during conversation with a reporter for The Times last evening, said that he thought Spain made a great mistake in keeping the Spanish fleet at the Cape Verde Islands. He pointed out the Azores as a better base for operations and strategic work. The Cape Verde Islands belong to Portugal, which is a neutral country, and the fleet could not sail without some notice of the fact being cabled over the neutral cable to London, and thence to the United States. As long as Portugal remains neutral, however much she may sympathize with Spain, the American consul on the islands can cable to this Government of any movement of the fleet.

Frank Libbey & Company, Sixth Street and New York Ave.